



Environmental Laboratory

Licensure Services

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Information Update

October 18, 1996

Update #32

1. Non-Compliance Testing:

If the sample analysis was performed for screening purposes, by a method not approved by ADHS or where unacceptable modifications were made to an approved method the words "Not For Compliance" must be stamped on the final reports. This will help to assure that the data will not be used by a regulatory agency for compliance purposes.

2. Cyanide Preservation:

Because oxidizing agents, such as chlorine, decompose most of the cyanides, water samples containing residual chlorine must be dechlorinated prior to preservation with NaOH.

EPA method 335.4 uses either ascorbic acid or sodium arsenite as dechlorinating agents.

Standard Method's SM 4500-CN B uses either sodium thiosulfate or sodium arsenite.

3. Upcoming Training Activities:

A. An all day workshop on Method 200.9 will be offered on November 7, 1996 in room 908, at 3443 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona. The workshop will cover: an overview of EPA 200.9, interferences, hardware and program setup, and quality control. There will also be a comparison of ICP and ICP/MS on cost of analysis and productivity to the lab. The workshop will be from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The registration fee is \$20, which covers lunch and parking validation. This workshop is sponsored by Varian corporation, the presenters will be Martha Cole and Gary Edwards.

To Register:

1. Complete the attached registration form.
2. Make checks payable to ADHS.
3. Mail or fax registration; mail checks to:

Cristy Finan/Training

3443 North Central, Suite
810
Phoenix, Arizona 85012-
2204
Fax: (602) 255-1070

B. Two training sessions on Practical Ethics for Environmental Laboratories are tentatively planned for December:

1. A one day workshop for Laboratory Managers
2. A one-half day workshop for Bench Analysts

C. A one day training on Internal Audits and Corrective Action Program is planned for January.

The plans for items B and C are tentative, and will depend on the number of laboratory personnel that express interest. Registration fees for these workshops have not been determined, but will be in the range of \$50 - \$100 per workshop. Personnel from laboratories that are not licensed by the State of Arizona may also attend. Please call Cristy Finan at (602) 255-3454 or indicate your interest on the attached registration form if you are interested in any of the above training sessions.

4. Drinking Water Round Table Discussion Excerpts.

The following are excerpts from the meeting with the Arizona Laboratory Association (ALA), Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) held on September 24, 1996 regarding drinking water issues. The following criteria address drinking water samples only.

A. ADEQ cannot evaluate the footnotes they are receiving on their drinking water compliance forms to determine whether the data being submitted is acceptable. ADEQ needs the laboratories to use standardized footnotes for qualifying data.

ALA agreed to set up a list of standardized footnotes that would be approved by ADHS that every laboratory would begin using. A deadline has not been set to complete this task.

In unique situations, with data outside the established footnotes, the laboratory could write a letter describing the issue in depth.

B. There was a question raised as to why ADEQ requires nitrates to be reported to the nearest whole number. ADEQ's response was that there was no such requirement.

C. There was a question concerning why ADEQ could not accept the data for unregulated contaminants every three years along with the regulated contaminants.

ADEQ explained that the federal rules require specific compliance intervals for reporting the regulated and unregulated contaminants. The compliance interval for unregulated compounds is four quarters every fifth year and for regulated contaminants annually every three years.

D. ADHS can promulgate methods, through rules revision, that are not promulgated by EPA. Once the method has been approved under the State Rules, laboratories can begin using these methods.

Laboratories cannot use non-promulgated methods if they are not in the Arizona Rules. In the case of SW-846 Supplement III, ADHS has not yet chosen to include this in their rules. They may add the Supplement at some time in the future.

E. A water system must establish an annual average for Gross Alpha and Radium 228 before it is allowed to have decreased monitoring.

F. When submitting DW compliance forms to ADEQ that have results analyzed by a sub-contracting laboratory, it is required that an attached copy of a signed report by the sub-contracting laboratory be included. If the primary lab performed any of the analysis then a signed report for their portion of the work must also be included.

G. ADEQ is receiving many reports which contain references for methods that are not approved for drinking water. It is theorized that many of the incorrect methods are wastewater or haz waste methods. The laboratories need to be more careful. Effective January 1, 1997, ADEQ will reject any report that contains an incorrect method, or where the testing laboratory is not licensed. ADEQ and ADHS have now linked data bases.

H. ADEQ is still having many instances where laboratories are not meeting the required MDL. Labs need to be more careful when reporting data. The majority of the errors have been on the SOCs, VOCs, thallium, antimony and cyanide.

I. Henry Lucas of Lucas Laboratory requested permission to change the radiochem DW form to include the measured value for gross alpha. He was told by Mary Simmerer of ADEQ to submit a copy of his request and she would review it.

5. If you have any questions regarding the Updates, or if you have any technical questions that need clarification, please call Prabha Acharya, Program Manager, Technical Resources and Training, at the Laboratory Licensure numbers.

*THIS MESSAGE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE
FORMAT UPON REQUEST, BY CONTACTING:
Wesley Press AT (602) 542-0357 Act of 1990 and
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.*

*The ARIZONA DEPARTMENT of HEALTH
SERVICES does not discriminate on the basis of
disability in administration of its programs and
services as prescribed by Title II of the Americans
with Disability*

METHOD 200.9/ ICP / ICP/MS WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

November 7, 1996

Name_____

Employer_____Title_____

Address_____State_____Zip_____

Phone: (_____)_____Fax: (_____)_____

Amount enclosed_____

Make checks payable to ADHS.

Please indicate here your interest in the following workshops:

Practical Ethics for Environmental Laboratories:

A one day workshop for Laboratory Managers.

How many people from your lab would be interested in attending?

A one-half day workshop for Bench Analysts.

How many people from your lab would be interested in attending?

A one day training on Internal Audits and Corrective Action Program for laboratory supervisors, QA managers, and laboratory managers.

How many people from your lab would be interested in attending?
